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NEW DEMOCRAT COALITION

CONGRESSWOMAN JANE HARMAN
36TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

April 29, 2010

Mr. Ray Barrera
Campaign Coordinator
Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of LA
2533 West 3rd Street, Suite 101
Los Angeles, California 90057

Dear Mr. Barrera:

The immigration law signed last week in Arizona is deeply troubling and should be condemned. I believe the new statute will not pass constitutional muster. It is the federal government's responsibility to manage border security, and while I believe illegal immigration must be addressed, the approach adopted in Arizona risks racial profiling and creating an atmosphere of intolerance.

Throughout my tenure in Congress, I have always supported reimbursement to states disproportionately affected by illegal immigration for costs of education, healthcare and incarceration. I strongly support the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP) program for California. I have also opposed legislation to designate illegal immigrants and Americans who might provide aid or assistance to them as felons, as well as the Real ID Act of 2005.

What I do support is comprehensive immigration reform, which should include humane border enforcement, employer sanctions and a path to earned legalization for the estimated 12 million people living in the shadows of this country. As the daughter and granddaughter of immigrants who came to this country legally, I know how enriched we are by our diversity. Adoption of meaningful bipartisan comprehensive immigration reform is a high priority for me and my constituents.

Regards,

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